

REMARKS

Claims 1, 55-59 and 61 are now pending in the application. By way of this paper, claims 56, 60, and 78-80 have been cancelled and claims 1 and 61 have been amended. Support for any claim amendments, claim additions and amendments to the specification can be found throughout the application as originally filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1, 55-61, 78 and 80 are objected to for a noted informality. Claim 1 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim objections have been overcome.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 55-61 and 78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 1 has been amended to address the §112 rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the §112 rejections have been overcome.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner has indicated that claims 60-61 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under §112 and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 60 and intervening claim 56. Claims 56 and 60 have been cancelled. The dependency of claim 61 has been amended accordingly. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 55, 57-59, and 61 dependent therefrom are in a condition for allowance.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 55, 57-59, 78 and 80 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Brien et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,308,481) in view of Fulton (U.S. Pat. No. 3,599,248). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claim rejections under §103 are now moot in view of the allowable subject matter and corresponding amendments discussed above.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner

believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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